

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1254

By Yokley

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members of the  
Greenville High School Air Force Junior Reserve  
Officers Training Corps unit.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is proud to honor those educators and members of the Armed Forces whose commitment to the youth of this nation can only be categorized as outstanding; and

WHEREAS, the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps is a character education program with the mission of developing leadership and citizenship in students in grades 9-12; the military environment is the vehicle that is used to teach the essential qualities that are necessary to excel as a citizen and as a leader; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) unit at Greenville High School have served their community and school with pride and distinction and deserve proper recognition for their volunteer service; and

WHEREAS, led by Cadet Major Mathew Luttrell and Cadet Major Henry Loewenkamp, the 120 high school cadets contributed over 2,700 hours of volunteer service to their community during the 2009-2010 school year; and

WHEREAS, the cadets, led by Senior Cadet Major John Morrow, raised money and collected donations to purchase a Flag Mass with 62 state and territory flags and marched in the Greenville city parade with members of the U.S. Army's 733rd Engineering Company in honor of Greenville High School graduate Sergeant Brandon Reed, who was killed in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Junior Cadet Captain Nathanael Onkst and Captain David Place led the placement of Christmas wreaths on the graves of over 1,600 fallen veterans at the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery for the Wreaths Across America program; and

WHEREAS, the JROTC Kitty Hawk Honor Society cadets, led by Senior Cadet Captain YaYing Wang, volunteered hundreds of hours tutoring and mentoring students at Tusculum View Elementary school; and

WHEREAS, Cadet Second Lieutenant Bryson Ricker and Cadet Second Lieutenant Zachery Hutcherson formed a student team to assist the American Legion Honor Guard and served hundreds of hours performing military burial honors; and

WHEREAS, JROTC initiated the high school's first varsity Marksmanship Team, which competed in several matches; one team member earned a national level ranking through the Civilian Marksmanship Program; and

WHEREAS, the cadets hosted the first annual East Tennessee Veteran's Memorial Drill Meet, led by cadet Senior Jennifer Crump; it provided hundreds of cadets, families, and local veterans with a day of competition, leadership, and camaraderie; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Air Force presented Greeneville High School JROTC with a prestigious Distinguished Unit Award, which honors the personal growth, accomplishments, and volunteerism of the cadets and the contributions of instructors Lt. Colonel (retired) Galen Kirchmeier and Master Sergeant (retired) Lynn Durden as mentors of the cadets; it is the unit's second consecutive award; and

WHEREAS, Master Sergeant (retired) Lynn Durden was recognized by the U.S. Air Force as an Outstanding Instructor of the Year for 2009-2010; and

WHEREAS, the unit expertly accomplished their mission to develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that that we hereby honor and commend the members of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps unit at Greeneville High School for their outstanding service to their community, the State of Tennessee, and this nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.